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Message Text

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PAGE 01 CANBER 05289 270732Z
ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00
DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 EPG-02 FAA-00 L-03
H-01 NSC-05 IO-13 OIC-02 /051 W
----------092169 270743Z /13
R 270705Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 993
INFO AMCONSUL MELBOURNE

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAIR, ENRG, AS
SUBJ: AVIATION FUEL PRICING

REF: CANBERRA 5037

1. PER PARA 9 CANBERRA 05037 WE CALLED ON BARRATT, FAS, DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL RESOURCES JULY 27 TO EXPLORE QUESTION OF POSSIBLE CHANGES IN AVIATION FUEL PRICING FOR INTERNATIONAL CARRIERS.

2. THE BROAD QUESTION OF PETROLEUM PRICING HAS BEEN BEFORE THE CABINET FOR MANY WEEKS AND FINAL CABINET DECISIONSN BROWING OUT OF RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY THE INDUSTRIES ASSISTANCE COMMISSION IN LATE 1976 (76 CANBERRA A-113) ARE EXPECTED IN THE NEAR FUTURE. MOST OBSERVERS BELIEVE THAT THE CABINET DECISION WILL BE MADE PUBLIC INCIDENT TO OR AS PART OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE 1978 BUDGET BEFORE PARLIAMENT ON AUGUST 16.

3. PENDING ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE CABINET DECISION, BARRATT WAS UNABLE TO GIVE US ANY FIRM INFORMATION ABOUT PENDING CHANGES. HE DID, HOWEVER, INFORM US THAT THE QUESTION UNDER STUDY WAS LIMITED TO THE PRICING OF DOMESTIC CRUDE PETROLEUM AND THAT TO
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HIS KNOWLEDGE THE PROPOSALS BEFORE THE CABINET DID NOT CONTEMPLATE ANY INTERVENTION IN THE PRICING OF PRODUCT. WE RECALLED THE ISSUE OF AVIATION FUEL PRICING TO INTERNATIONAL AIR CARRIERS IN 1975 AND ASKED WHETHER THERE APPEARED ANY POSSIBILITY THAT DISTINCTIONS MIGHT BE DRAWN BETWEEN ALTERNATIVE GROUPS OF USERS AT THE PRODUCT STAGE. BARRATT SAID THAT HE KNEW OF NO PROPOSALS OF THIS KIND OR OF ANY DISCUSSION OF SUCH

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A POSSIBILITY.

4. EMBASSY COMMENT: WHILE CONFIRMATION OF THE EXACT CHANGE, IF ANY, TO BE MADE IN PRICING ARRANGEMENTS MUST AWAIT THE BUDGET, TODAY'S COMMENTS BY BARRATT REINFORCE THE GENERALLY REASSURING TONE OF THE COMMENTS RECEIVED FROM ROWLAND AND FREELAND OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT ON JULY 18. IT SEEMS HIGHLY PROBABLE THAT AUSTRALIA WILL START MOVING ITS DOMESTIC CRUDE PRICE IN THE DIRECTION OF IMPORT PARITY ON SOME LONG-TERM SCHEDULE, BUT THERE IS NO PRESENT EVIDENCE THAT PARTICULAR PRODUCTS OR USER GROUPS SUCH AS AVIATION FUEL OR INTERNATIONAL CARRIERS WILL BE SINGLED OUT FOR ACCELERATED TREATMENT.
SQUIRE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AVIATION, FUEL OIL, PRICES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 27-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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SAS ID: 1738511
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Status: NATIVE
Subject: AVIATION FUEL PRICING
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